

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: *Deng, Ruitang, et al.* :

APPLICATION NO.: Not Yet Known : Examiner: C. Drabik

FILING DATE: Concurrently Herewith : Group Art Unit: 1635

TITLE: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR :
PROTECTING ANIMALS FROM
LENTIVIRUS-ASSOCIATED DISEASE SUCH
AS FELINE IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS

Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The present application is a divisional of copending application Serial No. 09/378,810, and pursues the invention of restriction Group VI, directed to Claims 36-48, 50-61, 65, 66, 70 and 71, as set forth in paper no. 6 of the prior application. Prior to examination, please amend the specification of the subject application as follows:

In the Specification:

Before the first line of text, please insert the text:

--This application is a division of Serial No. 09/378,810, filed August 23, 1999, which claimed the benefit of Serial No. 60/097,645, filed August 24, 1998.—

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-35, 49, 62-64, and 67-69 without prejudice to applicants' rights therein.

Please amend claims 66 and 70 as follows:

66. (AMENDED) The method of claim 65, further comprising purifying the antibody from the animal.

70. (AMENDED) A method of inducing an immune response in a mammal,

comprising administering the vaccine of claim 48 to said mammal at a dosage sufficient to induce protective immunity against subsequent infection with at least one strain of said lentivirus.

The amended claims in mark-up form are as follows:

66. (AMENDED) The method of claim [64 or] 65, further comprising purifying the antibody from the animal.

70. (AMENDED) A method of inducing an immune response in a mammal, comprising administering the vaccine of claim 48[, 49 or] 50 to said mammal at a dosage sufficient to induce protective immunity against subsequent infection with at least one strain of said lentivirus.

Please add new claims 72 and 73 as follows:

72. (NEW) A method of inducing an immune response in a mammal, comprising administering the vaccine of claim 50 to said mammal at a dosage sufficient to induce protective immunity against subsequent infection with at least one strain of said lentivirus.

73. (NEW) The method of claim 72, wherein said mammal is a cat, said lentivirus is a strain of FIV and said vaccine is administered at a dosage sufficient to induce protective immunity against subsequent infection by at least one strain of FIV.

REMARKS

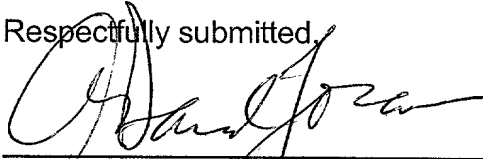
Claims 1-71 were pending in the prior copending application. By this amendment, claims 1-35, 49, 62-64, and 67-69 have been cancelled without prejudice to applicants' rights therein. Claims 66 and 70 have been amended to delete references to cancelled claims and to remove multiple dependency. New claims 72 and 73 have been added herein. Accordingly, claims are pending and under examination.

New claim 72 has support throughout the subject application, inter alia, in original claim 70. New claim 73 has support throughout the subject application, inter alia, in original claim 70 and 71. No issue of new matter is raised by the present amendment. Therefore, entry of the amendments set forth herein is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be necessary in connection with this Preliminary Amendment. Authorization, however, is hereby provided to charge any fee deemed required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

Applicants believe the present claims are allowable, and respectfully request expeditious examination of the pending claims on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,



A. David Joran
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 37,858

Date: December 15, 2000

Pfizer Inc
Patent Department, 20th Floor
235 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017-5755
(212) 212-733-3381